



# THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

September 23, 2013

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## Principal's Newsletter



We will be administering the FAIR (Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading) to 6th and 7th graders this week on Tuesday and Thursday. (The 8th graders were tested last Friday.) This test is completed on the computer by students in grades 3

through 8. Kindergartners through 2nd graders are given the test individually by their teachers who enter the data online. This test helps pinpoint weaknesses so we can better address them, ultimately making all of our students better readers. Since the FAIR is given three times during the year, we can see if adequate progress is being made.

We had a very good turn-out for the "Back to School" nights. Thank you to the parents who were able to come. I hope the evening was informative for you and value your feedback.

Mid-quarter progress reports were sent home Thursday and Friday. If you did not receive one, please let us know. If your child's grades are lower than you would like, remember that the grading period does not end until October 24, so there certainly is time for students to improve. If you would like a conference, please contact the teacher directly or call the office to set a time. The key to good grades is keeping up with

assignments and asking for help when a concept/skill is not understood.

Mr. Swilley will pass around a sign-up sheet for basketball on Monday. Anyone in grades six through eight who is interested in playing is asked to let him know. Games begin in early November for both boys' and girls' teams, but first we have to know if there is enough interest.

Have a wonderful week and please contact us if you have concerns, questions, or even good things to say! Be sure to check out the calendar for exciting October events, including the theme for Spirit week!



The "Tree of Life" paintings, by Sarasota Academy of the Arts students (Kindergarten through 8th grade) will be on display at the Selby Library Children's Room on Friday, October 4th from 5:00pm—6:00pm.

These are inspired by the artist Gustav Klimt and Shel Silverstein's book The Giving Tree.

## Upcoming Dates:

- Fall Picture Day: Monday, 9/30/13 **(the date in last week's newsletter was incorrect)**
- Family Fun Night at Stardust Skate Center Tuesday, 10/1/13 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Tickets are \$7. Next week, tickets will be \$10 so get yours early!!
- 1st PTO Meeting: Thursday, 10/3/13
- SPIRIT DAY! (Held the 1st Friday of every month) - 10/4/13 Don't forget to wear your SAA T-Shirt!
- Selby Library Art Display held on 10/4/13 from 5pm - 6pm.
- Spirit Week (Oct. 7 - 10th) Check the SAA website for specific details on the fun themes we've planned!



Are you looking for ways to meet your volunteer hours?

We have tons of projects you can help with, but you must first be PALS approved!

We need some volunteers to assist with the car line in the

mornings. It would be from 7:30 am - 8:00am.

Also, there is always a need to help during lunch time, serving food, etc.

Be sure to check in at the SAA office beforehand. You will need to provide a valid driver's license to be screened through Raptor, and then obtain a visitor's pass.

Don't forget to log all of your

volunteer hours in the front office. Kathy has the log forms.

We also need help next week at our 1st Family Fun Night at Stardust (at the check-in table, auction tables, and with the 50/50 tickets). Want to help?

Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Kelly Marsh, via email: KelBelleFL@aol.com or on her cell: 941-350-3767.

**SPIRIT DAY is 10/4/13! Have you purchased your student's SAA T-Shirt?**



**Get yours today for only \$10.**



**Be sure to check the SAA website frequently, especially the Parent's Corner page and the School Calendar. It is updated weekly with important information!**

[www.sarasotaacademyofthearts.com](http://www.sarasotaacademyofthearts.com)